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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Vinetz
Serial No.: 09/579,383
Filed: May 26, 2000
For: PLASMODIUM SP. CHITINASE

)
) Examiner: P.V.
) Baskar
) Art Unit: 1645
)

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is in response to the September 28, 2001 Office Action issued by the Examiner in connection with the above identified application. A response to the Office Action was originally due October 28, 2001. A Petition for a three-month extension of time is being filed herewith. Therefore, a response is now due January 28, 2002.

In the Office Action, the Examiner required restriction to one of the following allegedly separate and distinct inventions:

Group I	Claims 1-12, 23 and 24, drawn to DNA, vector and host cell;
Group II	Claims 27-30 and 37, drawn to polypeptide;
Group III	Claims 31-33 and 36, drawn to an antibody and method of making an antibody;
Group IV	Claims 13-18, drawn to a method of decreasing or increasing the expression of Plasmodium chitinase;
Group V	Claims 38 and 40-45, drawn to a method for the prevention of infection;

Group VI Claims 25 and 26, drawn to a method of detecting *Plasmodium* chitinase in a sample using nucleic acid;

Group VII Claims 34 and 35, drawn to a method of detecting *Plasmodium* chitinase in a sample using protein antigen and antibody; and

Group VIII Claims 19-22 and 39, drawn to a method of screening a substance and obtaining DNA encoding *Plasmodium*.

In response to the restriction requirement, applicant hereby elects Group I, claims 1-12, 23 and 24, drawn to DNA, vector and host cell, for prosecution at this time.

The Examiner also required the election of a single disclosed species, i.e. a single disclosed amino acid sequence, nucleic acid sequence, or antibody. In response, applicant hereby elects the species of SEQ ID NO:1. SEQ ID NO:1 represents the nucleic acid sequence of a *Plasmodium falciparum* chitinase, and encodes the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:3.

Please direct any questions concerning this response to applicant's undersigned attorney at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: January 28, 2002

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date below.	
01-28-02	Susan J. Braman
Date	Attorney Reg. No.: 34,103